

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY COMMERCE/NOAA/NWS;BZAVOS;DR
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ARA/MC/C;JSCOTTMAN

- '----- 040103
P 272218Z JUL 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TPHY, CO

SUBJECT: DRAFT U.S.-COLOMBIAN METEOROLOGICAL AGREE-
MENT

REF: BOGOTA 8821 SEPT. 12, 1975; BOGOTA 4163
APRIL 22, 1976; BOGOTA A-46 APRIL 14, 1976.

1. PLEASE PASS THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION TO COLOMBIAN
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS IN REFERENCE TO NEGOTIATIONS
ON UPDATING THE 1968 AGREEMENT AND MEMORANDUM OF ARRANGE-
MENT FOR THE "UNITED STATES-COLOMBIAN COOPERATIVE
METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATION PROGRAM."

2. IS IT ASSUMED THAT THE NOTE FROM THE COLOMBIAN MINISTRY
OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DATED APRIL 7, 1976, IS IN REPLY TO THE
USEMB NOTE WHICH CONTAINED THE NOAA PROPOSALS FOR CONTINUA-
TION OF THE COOPERATIVE PROGRAM (REF. BOGOTA 8821)? THERE
IS NO REFERENCE TO THE NOAA PROPOSAL AND NO ATTEMPT IS
MADE TO ADDRESS THE INDIVIDUAL NOAA POINTS.

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3. NOAA CANNOT ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL TO LIQUIDATE THE
OUTSTANDING INDEBTEDNESS IN TWO EQUAL ANNUAL
INSTALLMENTS BEGINNING IN 1977 AS INCLUDED IN THE NOTE TO

TABLE II. THIS MATTER OF SETTLEMENT OF THE DEBT PRIOR
TO CONTINUATION OF THE PROGRAM MUST BE RESOLVED BEFORE
WE CAN PROCEED ON THE NEXT STEP OF CONSIDERING THE
OTHER ITEMS CONTAINED IN THE COLOMBIAN COUNTER-PROPOSAL.

4. REMAINDER FOR EMBASSY INFORMATION ONLY.

5. IT IS DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE GOVERNMENT
OF COLOMBIA CAN HAVE FAILED TO PROVIDE FUNDS FOR
THREE SUCCESSIVE YEARS FOR THE EXPENDABLES. THIS
TYPE OF ACTION MAKES US QUESTION THE ABILITY OR THE
CAPABILITY OF THE COLOMBIAN GOVERNMENT TO CONTINUE
THE PROGRAM AFTER THE THREE YEAR SUPPORT REQUESTED
IN THEIR COUNTER-PROPOSAL HAS TERMINATED. THE COSTS
TO THE U.S. GOVERNMENT FOR THREE YEARS, IF WE USED
OUR PROPOSAL AS A BASIS FOR THE AGREEMENT, WOULD BE
LESS THAN HALF THAT REQUIRED UNDER THE COLOMBIAN
PROPOSITION. A MAJOR FACTOR IN THE ELEVATED COST
OF THE COLOMBIAN PROPOSAL IS THE SUPPORT OF THE
BOGOTA RAWINSONDE STATION WHICH IS OF REDUCED VALUE
TO THE METEOROLOGICAL NEEDS OF THE UNITED STATES. KISSINGER

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